India's share in world handicrafts market

1020. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the world market for handicrafts was estimated at 2.350 Million U.S. Dollar of which India's share is only two per cent;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government are considering to set up institutions in every State to train people in various handicrafts disciplines; and

(c) whether Government are also considering to promote the brand image of Indian handicrafts in global markets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) As per the study conducted through M/s Frost & Sullivan, Chennai, the world market for handicrafts and gifts was estimated at US $235 billion in 2003. India's share of export in world market is estimated as about 2%.

(b) No, Sir. However, under Design and Technology Upgradation Scheme, financial assistane is being provided to the Implementing Agencies duly recommended by the States/UTs Government for setting up of State Initiative Design Centres (SIDC), under which training is also imparted to the craftpersons besides meeting the Design and Technological related needs of the area.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government is considering to promote the brand image of Indian Handicrafts in Global market especially in USA and EU countries, which are prominent importers of Handicrafts from India.

Increasing the capacity of textile manufacturing sector

1021. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an urgent need to increase capacity of textile manufacturing sector, which is not in a position to meet the industry's machinery requirement, causing huge backlog in supplies;